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January 30, 1997 LR 20

of treatment using equal protection as a model and a guide, and I want to go through some of those with you. This may sound like a constitutional law lecture, but it is designed to tell you how important and how fundamental this is. There are several different classes of people and of concepts that are treated with equal protection under our United States Supreme Court interpretations of equal protection, one of them is race. Equal protection clause was used in cases like Brown v. Board of Education, and so on, to destroy the old concepts of separate but equal, and they were used to apply equal protection under law. I mean what a...what a difficult concept; you got to treat everyone the same under the law. It seems like a fairly normal thing to do, but, obviously, that has not always been the And you apply there that if the states are going to do anything that is going to treat people differently because of their race, that they are going to be compelled to show the highest reasons for doing it. It is called "strict scrutiny" and it rarely happens. It is a tough, tough standard to meet. Now next to that, of course, alienage is the other one that has the same sort of standard. Gender, for example, isn't at that strict scrutiny level. Gender is a little bit lower, it's called intermediate scrutiny, and then, of course, the lower tier is things like age, your ability to pay, indigence. Can we treat people differently because they don't have as much money as some else? Well, yes, we can, and the test there is, is it a reasonable thing to do? Is the interest of treating people differently more important than the evil that you are trying to get around? For example, if you didn't have that test, we have a filing fee to get an operator's license, and somebody could say, I don't have the money for an operator's license, that is not...that is not treating me equally. Well, the test that gets applied is, well, is that reasonable to charge a fee? will say, yes, it is a minimal amount, there is a reason for treating people differently. with What we do constitutional amendment is add in equal protection of the laws to make sure that we maintain in Nebraska the concept of equal protection because we are going to make and suggest some changes to our special legislation clause. Because we make changes to the special legislation clause, we want to make sure that we don't destroy the existing concept of equal protection in this state. Our court has dealt with equal protection hundreds of There is a concept of equal protection under Nebraska times.